

Hamilton County Awarded \$24 Million Neighborhood Stabilization Program 2 (NSP2) Grant

By Susan Walsh
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Hamilton County Community Development, in a consortium with the City of Cincinnati Department of Community Development, Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority, Model Group, and Local Initiatives Support Corporation, has been awarded \$24,068,968 in Neighborhood Stabilization Program 2 (NSP2) Grant funds.

Hamilton County is one of only 56 applicants nationwide that received funds, although almost 500 entities applied. The competition for these funds was designed to reward the best, most innovative ideas for tackling the housing crisis, explained Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Shaun Donovan. "Awardees were not only required to demonstrate need but show a capacity for growing local economies in impactful ways." Partnerships formed in applying for these funds were also recognized in the scoring system, resulting in many Consortia being funded.

"We're very honored to be selected from so many applications to get these important funds," says Susan Walsh, Director of Hamilton County Community Development. "We will work with our partners to ensure that these funds are used wisely to redevelop housing for the targeted areas we identified in the City and County."

The NSP2 funds will be used in targeted areas across the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County where stagnant population growth, high unemployment, and a weak housing market have lead to high foreclosure and vacancy risk scores. Targeted communities include Avondale, East Price Hill, Evanston, Golf Manor, Lincoln Heights, Mt. Healthy and Northside.

The Consortium plans to: acquire and rehabilitate rental units; provide funds for the acquisition, demolition, redevelopment, or financing of rental units and homeownership units; and demolish blighted structures.

Donovan cited Hamilton County's plan as one that is "part of a larger strategy to target struggling neighborhoods in communities like Evanston which are anchored by schools, transportation and other institutions and services we know are essential to the ongoing success and revitalization of any community."

For more information about Hamilton County Community Development's participation in the NSP2, [please visit this web page](#).